**PATENT** 

S/N 10/788,69

## NITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

EYAL ET AL.

MAR 3 1 2006

Examiner:

D. TRUONG

Serial No.:

10/788,696

Group Art Unit:

1711

Filed:

**FEBRUARY 26, 2004** 

Docket No.:

6786.78USC5

Title:

LACTIC ACID PROCESSING; METHODS; ARRANGEMENTS; AND

**PRODUCTS** 

## **CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on March 29, 2006.

## REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 29, 2005. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejection is requested.

The only rejection in the outstanding Office Action is a rejection of claims 20-35 based on obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,534,679 and claims 1-23 of U.S. Patent No. 6,229,046. In view of the enclosed document entitled "Combined Terminal Disclaimer and Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b)" it is understood that this rejection has been rendered moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

It is expected that an amendment requesting a change of inventorship will be filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office shortly to add Xiangsheng Meng as an inventor of the above-identified patent application. The Examiner is requested to delay issuing a Notice of Allowance until receipt of papers for adding Xiangsheng Meng as an inventor.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March <u>29</u>, 2006

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